

Introduced by Senator Ducheny

(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Tran)

(Coauthors: Senators Dunn and Runner)

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Bermudez, DeVore, Maze,
Mountjoy, and Umberg)

February 9, 2005

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 17— Relative to the flag of the former Republic of Vietnam.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 17, as introduced, Ducheny. Flag of the former Republic of Vietnam: display.

Existing state law contains provisions governing the display of the flags of the United States and this state and relating to the design of, and display of certain flags at, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial on the grounds of the State Capitol. Existing federal law prescribes the position and manner in which flags of other nations should be flown in relation to the United States flag.

This measure would urge that the state formally recognize the flag of the former Republic of Vietnam as the symbolic flag of the Vietnamese American community in this state, and permit this flag to be displayed on any state-owned property, or at any state-controlled or sponsored Vietnamese American event or any public function organized by the Vietnamese American community in the state, subject to the permit requirements of the event's locality.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, According to reports from the 2000 United States
- 2 Census, California is home to 430,964 Vietnamese immigrants;
- 3 and

1 WHEREAS, The Vietnamese American community has made
2 positive contributions to the historical, cultural, educational, and
3 economic prosperity of California; and

4 WHEREAS, Vietnamese Americans remain vigilant in
5 opposing tyranny of all forms, actively supporting human rights
6 for all people, and celebrating the principles of democracy,
7 justice, and tolerance upon which our nation was founded; and

8 WHEREAS, Nearly 250,000 Vietnamese and 58,000
9 American servicemen and women sacrificed their lives for
10 freedom in Vietnam; and

11 WHEREAS, The flag of the former Republic of Vietnam, with
12 three red stripes upon a field of gold, and dating back to 1948,
13 has been and will be a symbol of resilience, freedom, and
14 democracy of Vietnamese Americans in California, who embrace
15 the flag as a uniting symbol; and

16 WHEREAS, The flag of the former Republic of Vietnam has
17 been formally recognized by 80 cities and eight states across the
18 United States; now, therefore, be it

19 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
20 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature urges that the state
21 formally recognize the flag of the former Republic of Vietnam,
22 displaying three red stripes on a field of gold, as the symbolic
23 flag of the Vietnamese American community in this state, and
24 permit this flag to be displayed on any state-owned property, or
25 at any state-controlled or sponsored Vietnamese American event
26 or any public function organized by the Vietnamese American
27 community in the state, subject to the permit requirements of the
28 event's locality; and be it further

29 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
30 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.